

REMARKS

In the present Amendment, claim 23 has been amended to recite that the indicator on the back side of the electrophotographic image-receiving sheet is a printed character or an image. Section 112 support for this amendment may be found, for example, at pages 35-37 of the specification. See, for example, the sentence bridging pages 35 and 36 of the specification.

Claims 24 and 25 have been canceled.

Upon entry of the Amendment, which is respectfully requested, claims 1-23 and 26-34 will be pending.

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 1-22 and 28-34 are allowed.

In Paragraph No. 3 at page 2 of the Action, claims 23, 24, 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Suto et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,484,759).

As to claims 24 and 25, the rejection is moot since these claims have been canceled.

As to claims 23 and 26, Applicants submit that the rejection should be withdrawn because Suto et al '759 does not disclose or render obvious the electrophotographic image-receiving sheet of present claims 23 and 26.

As noted above, claim 23 in the present Amendment has been amended to recite that the indicator on the back side of the electrophotographic image-receiving sheet is a printed character or image. Since the indicator of the present invention is a printed character or image, the indicator of the present invention is structurally different from the indication mark of Suto et al '759 which is an opaque porous resin layer. See Suto et al at column 4, lines 51-57. Moreover,

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Suto et al '759 does not disclose or provide any motivation to achieve the printed character or image indicator of the present invention.

For these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 23, 24, 25 and 26 should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In Paragraph No. 5 at page 3 of the Action, claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Suto et al.

Applicants submit that this rejection should be withdrawn for the same reasons that the rejection of claims 23 and 26 under § 102(b) based on Suto et al '759 should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

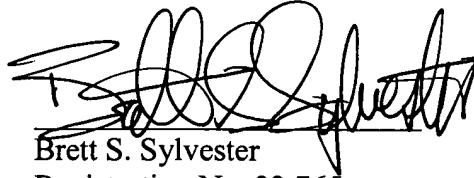
In addition, Suto et al does not disclose or fairly suggest that the indicator is arranged on the entire back side of the electrophotographic image-receiving sheet, as required by present claim 27. The statement in Suto et al at column 6, lines 51-53 that the shape and number of detection marks is not particularly limited and may be suitably selected does not disclose or fairly suggest arranging the indicator on the entire back side of the image-receiving sheet.

For these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the § 103 rejection of claim 27 based on Suto et al '759 should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

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Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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